



Public involvement. Public education. Public benefit.

**Online No Child Left Behind Survey
Responses from New Jersey vs. the National Average**

From what you have heard about NCLB, do you believe that you:

	New Jersey	National
Know Nothing or Little About the Law	10%	7%
Know About Some of the Provisions of the Law	63%	59%
Have An In-Depth Knowledge of the Law	27%	35%

From what you know about NCLB, what is your opinion of the law?

	New Jersey	National
I Support the Law As It Is Without Changes: Stay the Course	4%	2%
I Support the Purposes of the Law, But Believe That It Requires Changes	65%	65%
I Do Not Support the Law At All	26%	31%
I Have No Opinion	6%	2%

One of the major goals of NCLB is to close the academic achievement gap among children of different racial, ethnic, or economic groups. Select those provisions of the law that are essential in closing the gap.

	New Jersey	National
Highly Qualified Teachers	80%	80%
Rigorous academic standards	57%	51%
Tests aligned with standards	43%	44%
Testing of students in grades 3-8, and once in high school	28%	27%
Reporting of test scores for groups of students based on race and ethnicity, income, English language proficiency, and disability	28%	31%
Publication of test scores and other data about district and school performance	31%	26%
Strong parental involvement	86%	88%
Adequate funding and resources	93%	92%
Ability of a child to transfer to another public school if their school does not meet state academic expectations	35%	29%
Tutoring for students in schools that do not meet state academic standards	67%	69%

NCLB currently requires that all children in grades 3 through 8, plus one grade level in high school, be tested in reading and math. Does NCLB require too much testing, too little, just right?

	New Jersey	National
Too much	64%	65%
Too little	9%	9%
Just right	18%	16%
Don't know	9%	10%

Do you believe that these testing and reporting requirements... (Select all that apply)

	New Jersey	National
Have raised awareness in your community about how your schools are doing?	40%	54%
Have provided more and better information about the academic performance in your school district?	36%	32%
Have motivated your community and parents to demand that schools that are low-performing be improved?	22%	20%
Have motivated you personally to become involved in your community?	17%	23%
Not sure	33%	29%

Do you agree that states and school districts should be required to report test scores for students by certain characteristics, including disability, income, English language proficiency, and race/ethnicity?

	New Jersey	National
Strongly agree	20%	20%
Agree	36%	34%
Disagree	17%	17%
Strongly disagree	23%	18%
Not sure	5%	10%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if the entire student body needs academic improvement?

	New Jersey	National
Strongly agree	3%	1%
Agree	4%	4%
Disagree	24%	21%
Strongly disagree	68%	71%
Not sure	1%	2%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if individual students are performing satisfactorily?

	New Jersey	National
Strongly agree	3%	2%
Agree	12%	7%
Disagree	25%	28%
Strongly disagree	59%	61%
Not sure	1%	2%

Currently, NCLB requires testing at only one grade level in high school. There are proposals to have NCLB testing in high school in reading, science and math, and at every grade level. Do you agree that there should be additional NCLB testing in high school?

	New Jersey	National
Strongly agree	12%	10%
Agree	19%	21%
Disagree	24%	23%
Strongly disagree	36%	37%
Not sure	8%	9%

How would you rate the teachers in your local schools? Do your local schools have:

	New Jersey	National
No qualified teachers	0%	0%
Some qualified teachers	20%	15%
Many qualified teachers	47%	55%
All qualified teachers	26%	23%
I have no way of judging	8%	7%

Do you believe that, by the end of this school year, every school will meet the NCLB requirement that all teachers must be qualified in the core subjects that they teach?

	New Jersey	National
Strongly believe	12%	7%
Believe	20%	19%
Disbelieve	38%	38%
Strongly disbelieve	24%	26%
Not sure	7%	10%

Currently, states have different definitions of what it means to be a “highly qualified teacher.” In judging whether a teacher is highly qualified, which of the following qualities do you believe to be most important? (For each, indicate a number between 1 and 5, with 1 for least important and 5 for most important.)

	1	2	3	4	5
Knows the subject matter	2% (2)	1% (1)	2% (4)	19% (20)	77%
Knows how to communicate and relate to students	3% (2)	0% (0)	2% (1)	10% (9)	85%
Establishes a relationship between the family and the school, and keeps channels of communication open	1% (1)	3% (2)	11% (10)	27% (28)	58% (58)
Sensitive to and respects students' diverse cultural backgrounds	1% (2)	4% (3)	15% (11)	19% (26)	61% (58)
Has passed license requirements mandated by the state	1% (4)	5% (5)	10% (19)	28% (25)	56% (47)
Knows how to keep discipline and order in the classroom	3% (1)	0% (2)	9% (8)	34% (29)	54%
Knows how to meet the individualized learning needs of students	3% (2)	0% (1)	5% (5)	18% (20)	75% (72)

How important is it to have a highly qualified teacher in every classroom?

	New Jersey	National
Very important	76%	68%
Important	22%	29%
Unimportant	2%	2%
Very unimportant	1%	1%
No opinion	0%	1%

Would you support programs to help existing teachers become "highly qualified"?

	New Jersey	National
Strongly support	65%	60%
Support	30%	33%
Oppose	3%	3%
Strongly oppose	0%	1%
No opinion	2%	3%

**What kind of information have you received about your school and districts' performance?
(Please check all that apply)**

	New Jersey	National
Information about the qualifications of teachers in my school	27%	28%
Information about the performance of my school	57%	74%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my district	40%	66%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my state	54%	64%
Information about opportunities for me as a parent or community member to become involved in improving the schools	37%	39%
Information about options for my child to transfer to another school	14%	18%
Information about tutoring services available to my child	22%	25%
None of the above	25%	14%

**How do you receive information about the performance of your school or school district?
(Please check all that apply)**

	New Jersey	National
From my school or school district	63%	65%
From a community-based organization or advocacy group	14%	10%
From the media	39%	53%
By mail	36%	26%
By e-mail	8%	13%
By phone	5%	3%
Sent home with my child	33%	32%
On the school or school district website	35%	39%
In local newspapers	57%	62%
On local broadcast news (radio/TV)	6%	22%
Other	15%	13%

Are you getting enough information about the performance of the schools in your community?		
	New Jersey	National
Too much	9%	13%
Just enough	27%	42%
Not enough	43%	31%
I am not getting information	14%	8%
Don't know	6%	6%

Do you agree that the information that you receive about the performance of schools in your district is presented in a language and format that you can understand and easily use?		
	New Jersey	National
Strongly agree	13%	18%
Agree	56%	50%
Disagree	12%	17%
Strongly disagree	6%	6%
Not sure	15%	9%

How strongly do you believe that the assessment data from test scores will lead to school improvement?		
	New Jersey	National
Strongly agree	4%	4%
Agree	27%	28%
Disagree	41%	39%
Strongly disagree	24%	23%
Not sure	4%	6%

Have schools in your community been labeled as “in need of improvement” or “failing” because of NCLB?		
	New Jersey	National
None	22%	20%
A few	34%	45%
Many	19%	19%
Not sure	26%	16%

**Have you been asked to become involved in any of the following activities related to NCLB?
(Please check all that apply)**

	New Jersey	National
Developing state standards	5%	5%
Developing the state test required by NCLB	2%	3%
Developing the state and/or local report cards required by NCLB	3%	3%
Developing the district Title I parent involvement policy	2%	4%
Giving input into the district annual Title I program	5%	6%
Making recommendations for what constitutes a "highly qualified teacher" under NCLB	4%	3%
Participating in the improvement teams for schools that were identified as needing improvement	11%	11%
None of the above	83%	81%

How satisfied are you with your school/district's efforts to engage you and/or your community?

	New Jersey	National
Very satisfied	9%	17%
Satisfied	40%	35%
Dissatisfied	17%	21%
Very dissatisfied	17%	13%
No opinion	18%	15%

NCLB gives students that attend low-performing schools the choice to transfer to another public school within the school district. How much do you think this option will help students perform better academically?

	New Jersey	National
It will help a great deal	12%	8%
It will help a little	22%	25%
It will have no effect	26%	28%
It will have a detrimental effect	28%	28%
Not sure	11%	10%

NCLB gives students attending low-performing schools the chance to receive tutoring after school to help them meet academic standards. How much do you think this will help students perform better academically?

	New Jersey	National
It will help a great deal	46%	41%
It will help a little	43%	48%
It will have no effect	9%	6%
It will have a detrimental effect	1%	1%
Not sure	2%	3%

During the 2006 elections, is it important to you that candidates for office:		
	New Jersey	National
Support the current NCLB law and seek its renewal	3%	4%
Support the current NCLB law, but with changes and amendments	64%	57%
Oppose the NCLB law	31%	37%
Makes no difference to me	2%	3%